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LRB102 16851 LAW 22257 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Dianne
4 Patrice Durham of Chicago, who passed away on February 4,
5 2021; and

6 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham was born in Gary, Indiana to Ural
7 L. Durham and Calvinita Carter Durham on June 17, 1968; she was
8 known as "Tricey" by those who grew up with her in Gary; and

9 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham began her illustrious gymnastics
10 career under the tutelage of Wanda Tomasi-Mohoi in
11 Merrillville, Indiana at the age of four; she trained with
12 notable coaches Bela and Marta Karolyi in Houston, Texas; she
13 won the junior national title in 1981 and 1982; she won the
14 senior national title in 1983, making her the first Black
15 woman to win a USA Gymnastics national championship; she
16 concluded her competitive career in gymnastics in 1985; and

17 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham continued to work in gymnastics,
18 eventually coaching, judging, and running her own gym, Skyline
19 Gymnastics, in Chicago; and

20 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham was inducted into the USA
21 Gymnastics' Hall of Fame for Region 5, the division of USA

1 Gymnastics that covers parts of the Midwest, in 2017; and

2 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham committed to her faith at a young
3 age at Trinity MB Church under the leadership of Pastor W.H.
4 Thomas; and

5 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham was an icon and trailblazer in
6 gymnastics; she will be remembered for opening doors for
7 generations of Black gymnasts who followed after her; her
8 contributions and legacy to the sport of gymnastics will live
9 on; and

10 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham was preceded in death by her
11 mother, Calvinita Carter Durham; her maternal grandparents,
12 Calvin and Thelma Carter; her paternal grandparents, Ulysses
13 Durham and Limmie Moore; her aunts, Thelma L. Carter,
14 Georgianna Moore, and Burnedett Durham; and her uncle, Wille
15 Reed Carter; and

16 WHEREAS, Dianne Durham is survived by her husband, Thomas
17 "Tom" Drahozal; her father, Ural Durham; her sister, Alice
18 Durham Woods; her niece, Allison C. Woods; her nephew, Michael
19 A. Woods II; her brother-in-law, Tim Drahozal; her aunts, Ida
20 Carter Jones and Marolin Milan; her uncles, Alex Carter,
21 Dennis Carter, Kem Moore, and Elton Moore; her special cousin,
22 Eric Carter; and a host of family and friends; therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE
2 HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
3 we mourn the passing of Dianne Patrice Durham and extend our
4 sincere condolences to her family, friends, and all who knew
5 and loved her; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
7 presented to the family of Dianne Durham as an expression of
8 our deepest sympathy.